

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/200,631

Examiner

George Eng

Applicant(s)

ASHTON ET AL.

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/19/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-11 and 13-34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


GEORGE ENG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1, 4-11 and 13-34 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's invention is drawn to a system of reliably power a fiber optic communication network which reduces maintenance costs by providing a limited number of centralized remote power sources (i.e., an alarm system providing electrical communication to key points in the remote power source circuit for monitoring AC power source, the rectifiers voltage, the converter voltage and current limiters current, wherein the alarm system is operable to transmit operation information of the remote power source circuit over secure protocol, such as a TCP-IP and a RS-485 link, to a telecommunication service provider so that the telecommunication service provider is able to determine whether the remote power source circuit requires maintenance).

Applicant's independent claims 1 and 31 each recite, *inter alia*, a system for powering one or more devices in a fiber optic communication network, which transmits communication data between a telecommunications service provider and a remote user device with a structure as defined in the specification (pages 6-11) including an alarm system incorporation within the electrical power source, the alarm system being configured to monitor the operation of the electrical power source and to allow the telecommunication service provider to monitor an operation parameter of the power source by transmitting electrical power source operation information from the alarm system to the telecommunication service provider via the fiber optic

Art Unit: 2643

communication medium. Applicant's independent claims 1 and 31 comprise a particular combination of elements, which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Applicant's independent method claims 14 and 33 each recite, *inter alia*, providing an alarm system in the electrical power source, monitoring the operation of the electrical power source with the alarm system in the electrical power source, and the telecommunication service provider monitoring an operational parameter of the power source by transmitting electrical power source operation information from the alarm system to the telecommunication service provider via the fiber optic communication medium. These steps, in combination of the remaining steps, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant's claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited by Applicant in Amendments filed 11/2/2000, 4/19/2001, 1/28/2002, 5/20/2002, 10/10/2002, 4/30/2003, 9/17/2003, 1/21/2004, 7/2/2004, 1/26/2005 and 9/19/2005.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Eng whose telephone number is (571) 272-7495. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 7:30 AM-6:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2643

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A. Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


George Eng
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2643